

# The Farmington Times.

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## St. Francois County Teachers Hold a Great and Beneficial Meeting

The Annual Conference of St. Francois county teachers convened in the high school building in Farmington, on Friday morning, Sept. 9th, for a two days session. County Superintendent Akers had set the time of the meeting on that date in order that the great number of teachers who live outside of the county, but teach within the county, might have an opportunity to participate in the conference. That Supt. Akers reasoned well was amply demonstrated throughout the meeting. A great throng of teachers was present at every session, and great interest was manifested from the beginning to the end of the programs. Practically all of the county schools had begun on the Monday or Tuesday preceding, and teachers almost without exception closed school on Friday and attended the meeting with the school problems of each separate district vividly impressed upon the mind of the teacher. It was indeed a great and representative group of over two hundred and fifty teachers that greeted Supt. Akers and listened with intense interest to his opening address. He explained his purpose in holding the meeting at that time, and plain indicated that he expected the attendance and co-operation of every teacher in the county to make the meeting a success and to lend inspiration and enthusiasm to the cause of education in the county.

Immediately after Supt. Akers' address, Supt. O. J. Mathias, of Desloge schools, was introduced as the inspirational speaker of the first session, and he certainly lived up to his enviable reputation as an inspirational speaker.

Supt. Mathias discussed "Present Day School Problems," and his address showed that he is a close student of educational progress and that he has some very pronounced ideas regarding school work and school ideals. He seemed to strike a chord of sympathy in his audience when he advocated the organization of County Junior Colleges supported by public funds. He very forcibly argued that our young people who graduate from our high schools should have the opportunity for higher education without having to go entirely away from the care of the home.

Another number on the morning program was "The New Geography" by Principal T. A. Porterfield, of Bonne Terre. This address dealt with the new phases of geography emphasized by modern inventions and changes brought about by the World War. Supt. Akers followed in a very interesting discussion of the question that both practical and helpful.

The principal speakers of the afternoon session on the first day were R. E. Laidlaw on Missouri History, Prof. Elliot on Writing in the Public Schools, and Hon. B. H. Marbury on Education and Community. The discussion of Missouri History proved a most entertaining topic and did much to arouse the interest of the teachers in the real importance of the History of Missouri especially in relation to other epoch making events in American History.

Mr. Marbury was introduced to the audience without warning but instantly warmed up to his subject and delivered a very pleasing and practical address that went home to the hearts of the teachers.

The program opened on Saturday morning with a vocal solo by J. Tom Miles of Farmington who sang in his usual easy and delightful manner. Tom has a voice that is the delight of his acquaintances and he is always ready to assist in every public enterprise. Farmington folks are proud of him and always give him a hearty hearing.

Allen H. Hinchey, Field Secretary of Southeast Teachers College, was a popular speaker on the program at the Saturday morning session and succeeded in delighting his audience with stories of the progress of Southeast Missouri and the development of her educational institutions.

One of the strong, helpful papers presented in the conference was, "The Relation of the Principal to the Superintendent, the Teachers, the Pupils and the Community," read by Mrs. Amelia Blankenship, of the Elvins schools. This paper showed very careful and scholarly preparation and was a helpful treatment of an important problem in education.

A demonstration of Methods in Primary Reading, by Miss Nellie Humphrey and a part of her class from the Esther schools, was one of the most interesting numbers on the

entire program. Miss Humphrey is without doubt an expert primary teacher and the grace and tact with which she conducted the class, and the very helpful manner in which she discussed Primary Methods in Reading was a delight to all present whether directly interested in Primary or other work.

The program on Saturday afternoon was one of the very best and the attendance, though not quite up to the other sessions was very gratifying.

Mrs. J. G. Newman, teacher of English in the Elvins high school, read a very able and helpful paper on the Business of the English Teacher. The skill with which she handled her subject at once grasped the audience and proved inspiring and helpful throughout.

Supt. J. U. White, of the Flat River public schools, discussed in a very able and enthusiastic manner "The Work of the Teacher Training High School." He pointed out the great need of training for rural teachers and showed how the modern Teacher-Training School is trying to help solve that problem. He traced the history of the movement up to the present time and appealed to all high schools in the county to lend a helping hand in that important matter. As one of the pioneer educators of Missouri, Mr. White received a very attentive hearing and succeeded in provoking much thought on the subject.

Judge R. C. Tucker, County Attendance Officer, and Judge of the Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court discussed in a very interesting and able manner the new sections of the school laws and their bearing on child labor, school attendance and other related matters. The conference would not have been complete without that number, as great interest centered in the various problems presented.

The St. Francois county teachers expressed the sentiment of the teaching fraternity in a set of resolutions adopted before the close of the session. A copy of those resolutions will be found elsewhere in this issue and is deserving of careful study.

The meeting closed with the sentiment universally expressed the Educational Conference of 1921 held in St. Francois county was by far the best county educational meeting ever held in the county. It was the largest in attendance, in interest, and the best in point of program presented. It was almost exclusively the product of the patient and painstaking work of County Superintendent J. Clyde Akers. It is true that he had the co-operation of the city superintendents and the teachers generally, but it was his masterful planning that so successfully secured that co-operation. The memory of that meeting will live long in the minds of St. Francois county teachers.

## Fine Service of St. Louis Taxicab Co.

The St. Louis-Fredericktown Taxicab Co., which recently began operations, appears to be giving eminently satisfactory service between these points, which are located approximately a hundred miles apart. All who have made the trip in their splendid Hupmobile cars are loud in their praise of the service they render, as their cars ride like Pullmans, their drivers are careful and accommodating, and the time they make is faster than can be made on the railroads along the route they serve.

They run four cars a day each way, so that the convenience of their patrons is served far better than by railroad trains. The fact that service is being appreciated by the general public is attested by the number of passengers they are daily transporting to different points along the route, many of whom are through passengers. Their cars are usually well filled, often somewhat crowded, though their frequency is a safeguard against overcrowding. It is a splendid convenience to the people of this, as well as many other communities served by this company, where railroad connections are more or less difficult, and as the people become more and more familiar with this service their business will doubtless constantly increase.

Dr. and Mrs. Leo Rariden motored to St. Louis the last of the week and visited relatives and friends.



## Plans for Agricultural and Live Stock Show Being Completed

At a meeting of the chairmen of the various committees of the Agricultural and Livestock Show, last night, a premium list was worked out. This list will be published soon. Cash prizes, as well as ribbons, will be given on general agricultural exhibits, poultry, hogs, mules, and Hereford, Jersey and Holstein cattle.

Besides the exhibits there will be some other attractions. A band will be secured to furnish music both days. Having a local minstrel show is under consideration. Plenty of amusement, it is assured, will be on hand.

It is hoped that the farmers will get behind this show and help make it worth while. This event should help in getting the people of the county and the town together and become better acquainted.

With the excellent farm crops produced in the county, high class poultry,

famous Herefords and high-producing dairy cattle, and promising young heifers secured for the Calf Clubs, a worth while show can be held if the heartiest co-operation is secured and proper enthusiasm shown. The boys and girls belonging to the calf clubs are looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to these two days. They are intending to bring their stock in the show ring in good condition and well broken.

It is hoped that all people having anything suitable to exhibit, will begin planning for showing their products and be on the lookout for the premium list which will be furnished as soon as possible. All residents of the county are urged to make plans to attend this show.

Everyone interested in this should also make special efforts to advertise the home-coming feature of these days.

## Bootlegging Hun in Hock

Sam Doss, of Desloge, brought in another bootlegger from that place Wednesday evening for confinement in jail here for bootlegging. The offender is a Hun, with an unpronounceable name, who is said to have come from St. Louis, evidently with the intention of saturating the Lead Belt with five gallons of booze, which he had distributed in two suit cases. He evidently did not know that Doss lived in Desloge. Possibly he did not know of Doss' reputation of recognizing his kind on sight.

The Hun was tried before a justice of the peace, and drew a \$300 fine and six months in jail, which adds just that much more to the taxpayers' burdens in meting out punishment to this foreigner, who perhaps was never before in the county until he arrived as a law-breaker. He should be compelled to pay his fine in hard work, instead of being fed up leisurely at the expense of the taxpayers, and thereby generating additional vigor to pursue his unlawful course when his term of confinement ends.

## In Honor of Soldier Dead

The remains of Private Russell Riggs has been returned from France, where he was killed in service, and funeral services will be held at the home of deceased in Ironton this afternoon, at 3 o'clock. All ex-service men are especially invited to attend in their uniforms and participate in the services. The parents of deceased, Rev. and Mrs. Milford Riggs, had the following notice in last week's Ironton Register:

The funeral of Private Russell Riggs, 55th Company, 5th Regiment, U. S. Marine Corps, who was killed in France, October 5, 1918, will be held in the court house yard, Ironton, Friday, September 16th, at 3 o'clock p. m. All are invited. All ex-service men are requested to come in uniform and help form the parade from the court house to the station, where the body will be placed on train en route to St. Louis for burial in Memorial Park Cemetery. Omit flowers.

Mrs. Geo. C. Forster went to St. Louis the first of the week for a visit with relatives and friends.

## Chas. Harris Confesses

Charles Harris, who was tried and convicted at Potosi, Mo., last week and given thirty years in the penitentiary, made a full confession.

Harris stated that on August 4, 1920, Russell Carr and his wife, Nellie Carr, came to Elvins, Mo., in their auto and drove them to a point near Caledonia, Mo., where Harris and Emmett Hurry got out; Carr and his wife went into Caledonia in the auto, and Harris and Hurry walked in; Harris and Hurry remained at the home of Carr Wednesday night, Aug. 4, 1920, and the next day, Carr and his wife kept a look-out, and in the meantime, Carr furnished Harris and Hurry with plenty of "white mule"; and at about 11:45 a. m., at the proper signal from Carr, Harris and Hurry entered the bank and robbed it of a few dollars less than \$8,000. On leaving the bank, Harris and Hurry took around Caledonia, and Carr and his wife, in their auto, met them about a quarter of a mile from the bank, and drove them toward Bismarck. An auto load of armed men from Caledonia followed too closely and so Harris and Hurry got out of the Carr auto and hid in the woods until the armed auto passed.

While Carr and his wife went on to Bismarck, Harris and Hurry hid the "loot" and arrived in Elvins about 7:30 p. m.; Harris was identified on Saturday, Aug. 7th, following, and was immediately arrested and confined at Potosi in jail for some 20 days; and while so confined, Hurry and Carr went out near Caledonia and located the "loot", and after dividing it, Hurry went to France, where he now is; Carr, when Harris got on bond, went with Harris in the night time, but could not locate the hiding place of the "loot", but Carr went back in the daylight and reported to Harris that some one had stolen it, but left a "rusty nickel" there, which he offered Harris.

Russell Carr and his wife are now confined in the St. Louis jail, awaiting a preliminary hearing; Harris is being held, as a witness, in jail at Potosi.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Sept. 12—Carl Oster, of Flat River, and Clara Eskew, of Blodgett.

Sept. 12—Guss B. Murray and Ona Crawford, both of Elvins.

## Crystal Lodge Team to Ironton

Crystal Lodge No. 50, K. of P., of this city, has a very proficient and well drilled team for the Third Rank, or Rank of Knight, and the attainment of this proficiency is mostly due to the energy and efforts of Sir Knight C. C. Gower, the leader, and several other loyal Knights. The reputation of this team has spread to adjoining towns, and their services are frequently requested by other lodges to confer the Rank of Knight.

Their most recent visit was to Ironton Lodge last Monday night, where they conferred the Rank of Knight upon ten Esquires. Their work was highly pleasing to the members of the Ironton Lodge, and they were the recipients of many compliments. After the adjournment of the Lodge, a splendid lunch was served. There were several other Knights from Farmington in addition to the thirteen members of the team.

## Up and Down Again Sunday

The Farmington ball team kept up its reputation of winning and losing a game Sunday, which is its record this season for every double-header they have played. The first game was played on the home grounds with Knob Lick, which resulted in a walk-away for the local team by a score of 10 to 1. Owing to rain, only seven innings were played, but the manner in which the visitors were outplayed at every point was discouraging to them, and they appeared to welcome conditions that prevented further play. Play started at 1:15 owing to the fact that the home team was billed for a second game with the Bonne Terre team, at that place.

After the close of the game here, the Bonne Terre manager was called up and asked about the weather conditions at that place. Being assured of favorable conditions, a quick run was made to that place, and play started there about 3:45, with most favorable weather conditions. For the first few innings the Farmington team seemed to have the game won, piling up four scores in the first inning. This lead was retained until the something "happened" that so often appears to "happen" in game in Bonne Terre—a long foul fly over third base and safely over the fence was called "fair" by the Bonne Terre umpire.

This, of course, resulted in a "squabble", but the offending ump belonged to that contingent who could not change his view or decision when once his eye was "set". But many disinterested spectators who were in position to know said it was a foul fly from ten to twenty feet. But Farmington, as usual, again demonstrated that they play ball for the love of the game, like true sportsmen, and continued to play to the finish. But it was that grossly unfair decision that resulted in their losing the game, causing the morale of the team to diminish and permitting the Bonne Terre team to put over a successful siege of batting, which resulted in a final score of 8 to 4 in their favor.

It is said that owing to such successful "plays" by their umpire is the reason the Bonne Terre team prefers to play on their home grounds, which gives them an advantage in making such "plays" stand up when they are hard pressed. The Times is not prepared to say there is no truth in such statement. The fact that they have played only on their home grounds would indicate the possible presence of a "nigger in the woodpile."

## Next Sunday's Game.

There will be no game in this city next Sunday. The Farmington team is scheduled to play the Elvins team, at that place, Sunday afternoon.

## 1921 Taxes Are Now Payable

The tax books for 1921 are now in the hands of the County Collector, who is prepared to receive taxes for the present year and issue receipts therefor. It may mean considerable economy, both in time and money, for all who are prepared to do so to pay their taxes early, thereby avoiding the crowd and jam that invariably ensues during the closing of the tax-paying period.

J. E. BREWER, County Collector.

## How Much Longer Can We Stand It?

The County Court last week allowed a bill amounting to \$585.75 for board of prisoners during August last. Quite a nifty sum to take from the pockets of the people for the purpose of paying the board of some twenty-odd prisoners, who are languishing in jail awaiting trial on different charges, for which the taxpayers have no chance to secure anything of value in return. Does not such a situation indicate to you, Mr. Taxpayer, that something is wrong in the administration of justice in St. Francois county?

The prisoners who are being held indefinitely behind bars in the county jail, charged with having outraged the peace of the community and the dignity of the law, certainly are entitled to a trial within a reasonable length of time, as it may be that some of them are innocent of the charge standing against them, and are being unjustly restrained from their liberty. If such proceedings are legal, then there is urgent need for a law that will guarantee to one under arrest, on suspicion of criminality, trial within a reasonable length of time.

Such procedure is not only a blight and an injustice to many who may be unjustly accused of crime, but what do you think of the burden that is thus saddled on the already overburdened shoulders of the tax-payers? Think of it! \$585.75 paid for board of prisoners for last month. This has nothing to do with the expense of bringing them to trial. This is only to keep them on the "waiting list" until the next regular term of court.

To the Times such procedure, or lack of procedure, appears as a grave injustice, not only to the prisoner, who may be innocent, but doubly so to the tax-payer, who is called on for payment of such costs, without so much as asking "by your leave." It does seem that a county as populous as St. Francois should have better equipment for the administration of justice—when the jail is overflowing with prisoners a safety valve should be provided for the trial of those who may be ready for trial. Mr. Taxpayer, are you satisfied to continue as paymaster for that hungry horde of prisoners?

## Popular Science for Times Readers

They used to say that "money makes the mare go!"

No longer true. Science makes the mare go. And money itself also works for science now.

It is amazing how rapidly science has become the rule of the world in the first two decades of the 20th century. To cap the climax, science, far more than human hands, fought the greatest war in history.

Science governs our lives nowadays from the cradle to the grave. The most successful food-raising is governed largely by science. We raise our babies more scientifically. Our schools are now scientifically run. Our homes are full of scientific inventions, our tools of industry are scientifically manufactured and our amusements are marvels of science.

This prelude is to introduce our readers to a new enterprise which the Times is about to present to its readers as a regular feature of our news columns. Through our representative, the Autocaster service, we have made special arrangements with the Popular Science Monthly, one of the country's leading informative magazines, to print simultaneously with that journal, illustrated features of the latest and most interesting facts in current science.

Popular Science is a careful and accurate collector of scientific news of the highest interest, and it pays thousands of dollars a month for the features that this newspaper has arranged to print simultaneously with it. Our readers will now share with Popular Science readers in these interesting, entertaining and educational features.

Miss Alma Williams, who last week was selected as music teacher in the high school here, but who at once declined that position, will leave soon for Colorado for an extended visit with her uncle, Mr. Adams, and family.

John Stain, about 76 years old, formerly of Leadwood, died last Friday morning, Sept. 9th, at 5 o'clock, in the County Infirmary, of general debility. Deceased had been in the county institution only about a month, having been in a poor and emaciated condition when sent there.